GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:285
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003
PENDING CASES IN COURT
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB;SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of civil and criminal cases pending at present in the Supreme Court, High Courts, District Courts and other lower courts in each State/Union Territory, age-wise;

(b) whether the non-filling of vacancies of judges, inadequate judges strength, lawyer`s strike and frequent adjournment of cases are the main cause for pendency of cases in different courts;

(c) if so, the number of posts of judges vacant at present in above courts;

(d) the measures taken up for filling up of the vacancies of the judges;

(e) whether the Government propose to issue directions to open the courts during the summer vacations as it was open in Gujarat during summer vacation of 2003; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) : A Statement showing the number of civil and criminal cases pending at present in the Supreme Court and High Courts is at Annexure-I. The age-wise pendency of cases in High Courtsis at Annexure-II. The age-wise pendency of civil and criminal cases in District Courts and other lower courts in each State/Union Territory is shown at Annexure-III.

(b) : The non-filling of vacancies of Judges, inadequate judges strength, lawyer`s strike and frequent adjournment of cases are some of the major reasons for pendency of cases in different courts.

(c) : As on 1.8.2003, there are two vacancies in the Supreme Court, and 158 vacancies of Judges/Additional Judges in the High Courts. The vacancy position of judicial officers State-wise/UT-wise is indicated at Annexure-IV.

(d) : Necessary measures have been taken by the Government to fill up of the vacancies in the Supreme Court, theHigh Courts and the Subordinate Courts.

(e) and (f): The Central Government have requested all the High Courts and State Governments to re-examine theannual vacation and working days in High Courts.

As regards vacation in the Subordinate Judiciary, the First National Judicial Pay Commission (FNJPC) hasobserved that by increasing the hours of work in Court and number of working days, and at the same time, reducing the vacation, arrears/pendency of cases could be reduced to some extent. The Government of India have requested allHigh Courts and State Governments to take action in this regard.

Annexure-I

Statement in reply to Part (a) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.285 to be answered on 8.8.2003

Pendency of cases in Supreme Court and High Courts

Sl.No.	Pendency of Cases			
	Criminal	Civil	Total	As on

Supreme Court 4747 19634 24381 1/11/2002

High Courts

1 Allahabad 149587 760054 909641 31/03/2002
2 Andhra Pradesh 10863 152649 163512 31/03/2002
3 Bombay 27936 265344 293280 30/09/2001
4 Calcutta 36433 190697 227130 31/03/2002
5 Delhi 17718 160283 178001 31/12/2000
6 Gauhati 5629 39413 45042 31/12/2000
7 Gujarat 19526 120041 139569 31/12/2000
8 Himachal Pradesh 4037 13910 17947 31/03/2002
9 J & K 1740 31625 33365 31/03/2002
10 Karnataka 7417 87819 95236 31/03/2002
11 Kerala 17107 393972 411079 31/03/2002
12 Madhya Pradesh 47420 88319 135739 31/06/2002
13 Madras 33258 314562 347820 31/12/2001
14 Orissa 10598 137168 147766 31/03/2002
15 Patna 17297 63942 81239 31/03/2002
16 Punjab & Haryana 44487 188288 232775 31/03/2002
17 Rajasthan 27713 110406 138119 31/12/2001
18 Sikkim 20 102 122 31/03/2002
19 Uttaranchal 5365 25479 30844 31/08/2002
20 Jharkhand 5437 9028 14465 31/12/2001
21 Chhattisgarh 16948 22690 39638 31/10/2002

Total 506536 3175791 3682329

Annexure-II

Statement in reply to Part (a) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.285 to be answered on 8.8.2003

Age-wise pendency of cases in the High Courts

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Pending as on	Case Type	Less than 1 Yr.	1-2 Years	2-3 Years	3-4 Years	4-5 Years	5-6 Years	6-7 Years	7-8 Years	8-9 Years	9-10 Years	More than 10 Yrs.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Allahabad	31/03/2002	Main	20935	72526	64180	60528	47185	34968	33436	28033	27824	34109	240960	664684
			Misc	21470	26189	24384	16014	16583	13238	9688	11351	11302	12714	82024	244957
			Total	42405	98715	88564	76542	63768	48206	43124	39384	39126	46823	322984	909641
2.	Andhra Pr.	31/03/2002	Main	29124	25708	21736	17406	13489	10464	8267	6933	4985	2637	4012	144761
			Misc	12818	5265	621	15	13	12	7	0	0	0	0	18751
			Total	41942	30973	22357	17421	13502	10476	8274	6933	4985	2637	4012	163512
3.	Bombay	30/09/2001	Main	57027	23115	21068	17454	14519	12942	11223	9850	9092	6657	31544	214491
			Misc	32359	12656	9840	7889	5561	2470	1900	1626	1425	1301	1762	78789
			Total	89386	35771	30908	25343	20080	15412	13123	11476	10517	7958	33306	293280
4.	Calcutta	31/03/2002	Main	20180	14637	13572	15639	13977	8707	10402	7360	12684	7701	100666	225475
			Misc	944	360	245	165	215	331	633	449	396	269	1405	5412
			Total	21124	14997	13817	15804	14192	9038	11035	7809	13080	7970	102071	230887
5.	Delhi	31/12/2000	Main	17246	9554	9614	6559	5485	4825	4511	4822	4834	3661	29817	100928
			Misc	22301	15270	9728	7210	4917	2441	2230	2415	2197	2316	6048	77073
			Total	39547	24824	19342	13769	10402	7266	6741	7237	7031	5977	35865	178001
6.	Gauhati	31/12/2000	Main	13905	8232	5095	3404	1864	764	290	86	40	2	0	33682

Misc 4618 2824 2097 1093 492 235 0 1 0 0 0 11360
Total 18523 11056 7192 4497 2356 999 290 87 40 2 0 45042

7 Gujarat 30/06/2001 Main 33551 11475 7751 6611 7675 5878 9770 4336 2973 3005 12060 105085
Misc 12247 5670 3922 2284 3487 1781 1394 723 1785 203 986 34482
Total 45798 17145 11673 8895 11162 7659 11164 5059 4758 3208 13046 139567

8. Him. Pr. 31/03/2002 Main 7587 1811 1192 1216 989 593 746 444 79 19 20 14696
Misc 2587 320 129 78 44 33 34 14 9 3 0 3251
Total 10174 2131 1321 1294 1033 626 780 458 88 22 20 17947

9. J & K 31/03/2002 Main 5098 5070 2923 1755 1157 607 218 159 76 34 106 17203
Misc 5215 5267 2700 1455 808 299 151 67 75 31 94 16162
Total 10313 10337 5623 3210 1965 906 369 226 151 65 200 33365
10. Karnataka 31/03/2002 Main 21882 36017 15821 8039 3699 3232 1809 1846 871 1116 902 95234
Misc 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 2
Total 21882 36017 15821 8039 3699 3234 1809 1846 871 1116 902 95236
11. Kerala 31/03/2002 Main 27855 24514 18006 13776 10540 8763 6367 4804 3480 2453 2013 122571
Misc 48551 48079 41944 34502 27854 22775 18345 17018 13290 11878 4272 288508
Total 76406 72593 59950 48278 38394 31538 24712 21822 16770 14331 6285 411079
12. Madhya Pr. 31/06/2002 Main 22407 30033 21545 14684 11219 8416 6464 4980 3767 2622 7955 134092
Misc 754 523 330 40 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1647
Total 23161 30556 21875 14724 11219 8416 6464 4980 3767 2622 7955 135739
13. Madras 31/12/2001 Main 50156 22172 14082 10131 8388 6956 5762 4579 3073 2940 5703 133942
Misc 105782 46799 25845 15598 8360 5343 2738 1977 744 421 271 213878
Total 155938 68971 39927 25729 16748 12299 8500 6556 3817 3361 5974 347820
14. Orissa 30/09/2001 Main 5700 16506 11985 9859 10346 7829 5700 3185 2580 1759 5927 81376
Misc 4021 27347 21359 11428 664 436 437 361 128 97 46 66437
Total 9721 43853 33344 21287 11010 8265 6137 3546 2708 1856 5973 147813
15. Patna 31/03/2002 Main 43460 6260 4789 3751 2895 1659 1509 1874 1674 1844 5812 74707
Misc 4972 745 440 227 150 0 0 0 0 0 0 6534
Total 48432 7005 5229 3978 3045 1659 1509 1874 1674 1844 5812 81241
16. Punjab & 31/03/2002 Main 13796 33651 21845 19720 16442 15308 12904 12463 9856 9796 56698 222479
Haryana Misc 9665 425 125 46 26 7 0 1 0 0 0 10296
Total 23461 34076 21970 19766 16468 15315 12905 12464 9856 9796 56698 232775
17. Rajasthan 31/12/2001 Main 21417 14038 13300 11903 4484 6316 4717 4273 3845 2714 7933 97940
Misc 13198 8745 8127 6334 2051 721 458 280 315 104 46 40179
Total 34615 22783 21427 18237 6535 7037 5175 4553 4160 2818 7979 138119
18. Sikkim 31/03/2002 Main 61 9 3 6 2 0 0 0 0 0 2 83
Misc 26 5 2 2 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 39
Total 87 14 5 8 6 0 0 0 0 0 2 122

Annexure-III

Statement in reply to Part (a) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.285 to be answered on 8.8.2003

Number and age-wise pendency of civil and criminal cases in District Courts and other lower courts.

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	As on	Pending Cases	Age-wise pendency				
			Case Type	Less than 6 months old	6-12 months old	1-3 years old	3-10 years old	Over 10 years
1	Andhra Pradesh	12/2002	Civil	469025	85130	107272	215539	58086 2998
			Criminal	415446	75317	97135	207461	33862 1671
2	Arunachal Pradesh	06/2002	Civil	311	50	130	100	31 0
			Criminal	1469	815	310	214	130 0
3	Assam	12/2001	Civil	37029	9378	9994	12627	4285 745
			Criminal	103208	31164	31560	30219	9164 1101
4	Bihar	06/2002	Civil	216045	19085	33962	73272	65130 24596
			Criminal	843792	96688	192084	304947	202865 47208
5	Chhattisgarh	06/2002	Civil	47776	9612	10906	14367	10779 2112
			Criminal	159965	41572	41323	48176	25088 3806
6	Goa	12/2002	Civil	23767	2838	2924	8372	7595 2038
			Criminal	11388	2992	2240	4061	1887 208

7 Gujarat 12/2002 Civil 717102 89504 81091 212343 277639 56525
Criminal 2603176 333253 524426 895055 750870 99572
8 Haryana 12/2002 Civil 196214 37612 40805 77272 39652 873
Criminal 380499 96246 95696 111912 76015 630
9 Himachal Pradesh 12/2002 Civil 68252 15034 15533 24895 12591 199
Criminal 81002 23091 17608 26293 13897 113
10 J & K 12/1999 Civil 43418 19495 13439 6609 2615 1260
Criminal 82596 33094 24498 15731 7050 2223
11 Jharkhand 12/2000 Civil 52762 5154 7526 19479 17738 2865
Criminal 250881 30034 54250 85996 72760 7841
12 Karnataka 12/2002 Civil 599468 94693 108722 220604 162069 13380
Criminal 479428 120540 155310 140081 59856 3641
13 Kerala 12/2002 Civil 229220 57962 48681 87678 32455 2444
Criminal 484204 178988 97530 173416 33808 462
14 Madhya Pradesh 06/2002 Civil 278223 55671 64413 78335 62826 16978
Criminal 757494 154797 171838 228336 174673 27820
15 Maharashtra 12/2002 Civil 911765 136189 136085 295915 257784 85792
Criminal 2256294 340509 329512 815770 598990 171513
16 Manipur 12/2002 Civil 4278 898 875 1302 1182 21
Criminal 3487 658 676 1044 768 341
17 Meghalaya 12/1999 Civil 2826 675 661 774 641 75
Criminal 9151 3115 1323 2912 1402 399
18 Mizoram 06/2002 Civil 47 41 0 6 0 0
Criminal 153 71 59 9 12 2
19 Nagaland N.A. - - - - - -
- - - - - -
20 Orissa 12/2002 Civil 144942 19544 19939 50446 49517 5496
Criminal 563877 56666 140948 239588 110388 16287
21 Punjab 12/2002 Civil 225373 50928 54708 84107 34532 1098
Criminal 304735 127804 80625 74927 20901 478
22 Rajasthan 12/2001 Civil 268018 39310 37380 85801 87981 17546
Criminal 572334 104093 91394 186882 168008 21957
23 Sikkim 12/1999 Civil 268 143 21 42 62 0
Criminal 524 413 60 41 10 0
24 Tamil Nadu 06/2002 Civil 572427 291634 182805 79989 16037 1962
Criminal 362254 152963 76015 79331 46109 7836
25 Tripura 12/2002 Civil 6558 2040 1946 2018 416 138
Criminal 14282 5682 4054 3241 1198 107
26 Uttar Pradesh 12/2002 Civil 1141808 158221 192545 326109 358192 106741
Criminal 2706146 437599 576926 857104 691645 142872
27 Uttaranchal N.A. - - - - - -
- - - - - -
28 West Bengal 06/2002 Civil 484867 70064 68466 137756 135727 72854
Criminal 1090918 208818 217061 385484 212765 66790
29 A & Nicobar 06/2002 Civil 876 231 156 272 205 12
Criminal 52459 12627 13570 22822 3432 8
30 Chandigarh 12/2002 Civil 13239 3599 3242 3751 2573 74
Criminal 38248 13936 12410 8390 3341 171
31 D & N Haveli 12/2002 Civil 399 76 40 213 68 2
Criminal 2188 230 425 1049 460 24
32 Daman & Diu 12/2002 Civil 739 96 139 245 239 20
Criminal 800 179 160 270 182 9
33 Delhi 12/2002 Civil 142491 23171 18878 51652 39435 9355
Criminal 653538 338605 107008 133741 67696 6488
34 Lakshadweep 12/2002 Civil 71 17 13 28 9 4
Criminal 42 18 3 19 2 0
35 Pondicherry 12/2002 Civil 6524 1688 1344 2373 835 284
Criminal 6236 3071 1608 1357 185 15

Total 22198324 4325431 4424286 7260200 5128345 1060082

Annexure-IV

Statement in reply to Part (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.285 to be answered on 8.8.2003

STATUS ON THE APPOINTMENT OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS (Updated on 30.07.2003)

Sl.No. Name of State/UT No.of No.of No.of Information

Sanctioned posts filled vacant posts as on
post of
Judicial
Officers

1	Andhra Pradesh	682	601	81	May 2003
2	Assam #	259	205	54	June 2001
3	Arunachal Pradesh #	293	293	0	December 1998
4	Bihar	1137	929	208	June 2002
5	Jharkhand	551	537	14	January 2003
6	Gujarat	655	586	69	April 2003
7	Goa	44	36	8	April 2003
8	Haryana	283	236	47	June 2002
9	Himachal Pradesh	98	92	6	January 2003
10	J & K	197	194	3	June 2002
11	Karnataka	677	589	58	July 2003
12	Kerala	380	370	10	June 2002
13	Madhya Pradesh	792	660	132	December 2002
14	Chhattisgarh	189	163	26	June 2002
15	Maharashtra	1095	994	101	June 2002
16	Manipur	32	28	4	June 2001
17	Meghalaya	8	7	1	June 2002
18	Mizoram	34	18	16	June 2002
19	Nagaland	21	18	3	June 2002
20	Orissa	483	385	98	June 2002
21	Punjab	303	273	83	June 2003
22	Rajasthan	792	686	106	June 2002
23	Sikkim	10	10	0	March 2003
24	Tamil Nadu	767	702	65	January 2003
25	Tripura	75	60	15	May 2003
26	Uttar Pradesh	2136	1592	544	May 2002
27	Uttaranchal	186	59	127	June 2003
28	West Bengal	588	470	118	April 2003
29	A & N Islands	8	8	0	July 2003
30	Chandigarh	19	19	0	November 2002
31	Delhi	385	313	72	April 2003
32	D & N Haveli	2	2	0	June 2002
33	Daman & Diu	1	1	0	June 2002
34	Lakshadweep	3	3	0	April 2003
35	Pondicherry	19	13	6	January 2003
	Total	13204	11129	2075	

Judiciary is not completely separated from executive.